INSTITUTE OF ACTUARIAL & QUANTITATIVE STUDIES

Class: MSc

Subject : Probability & Statistics

Chapter: Unit 2 Chapter 3

Chapter Name: Conditional Expectation

Today's Agenda

1. Conditional Expectation

2. The Random variable E[Y|X]
    1. Mean
    2. Variance

3. Compound Distributions
    1. Moments of Compound Distribution
    2. Generating Functions of Compound Distribution

1 Conditional Expectation

The conditional expectation of *Y* given *X* = *x* is the mean of the conditional distribution of *Y* given *X* = *x* . This mean is denoted *E*[*Y*|*X* = *x*] , or just *E*[*Y*| *x*] .

For a discrete distribution, this will be:

$$E[Y|X = x] = \sum_i y_i \; P[Y = y_i|X = x] = \sum_i y_i \frac{P[Y=y_i \,, X = x]}{P[X=x]}$$

For a continuous distribution,

$$E[Y|X = x] = \int_y y.f(y|x)dy = \int_y y.\frac{f(x,y)}{f(x)}\,dy$$

2.1 The Random Variable E[Y|X]

The conditional expectation $E[Y \mid X = x] = g(x)$, say, is, in general, a function of x. It can be thought of as the observed value of a random variable $g(X)$. The random variable $g(X)$ is denoted $E[Y \mid X]$.

$E[Y|X]$ is also referred to as the regression of Y on X.

$E[Y \mid X]$, like any other function of X, has its own distribution, whose properties depend on those of the distribution of X itself.

Theorem: $\boldsymbol{E[E[Y \mid X]] = E[Y]}$

Proof: $E[E[Y \mid X]] = \int E[Y|x]\ f_X(x)dx$

$$= \int\left(\int y\ f(y|x)dy\right)f_X(x)dx$$

$$= \iint y\ f(x,y)dx\ dy$$

$$= E[Y]$$

2.2 The random variable var[Y | X] and the "E[V]+ var[E]" result

The variance of the conditional distribution of Y given $X = x$ is denoted $\text{var}[Y \mid x]$, where:
$\text{var}[Y \mid x] = E[\{Y - E[Y \mid x]\}^2 \mid x] = E[Y^2 \mid x] - (E[Y \mid x])^2$

$\text{var}[Y \mid x]$ is the observed value of a random variable $\text{var}[Y \mid X]$ where:
$\text{var}[Y \mid X] = E[Y^2 \mid x] - (E[Y \mid x])^2 = E[Y^2 \mid X] - \{g(X)\}^2$

Hence $E[\text{var}[Y \mid X]] = E[E[Y^2 \mid X]] - E[\{g(X)\}^2] = E[Y^2] - E[\{g(X)\}^2]$ and so:
$E[Y^2] = E[\text{var}[Y \mid X]] + E[\{g(X)\}^2]$

So the variance of Y, $\text{var}[Y] = E(Y^2) - [E(Y)]^2$, is given by:
$E[\text{var}(Y \mid X)] + E[\{g(X)\}^2] - [E\{g(X)\}]^2 = E[\text{var}(Y \mid X)] + \text{var}[g(X)]$
i.e. $\mathbf{var}[Y] = E[\mathbf{var}[Y \mid X]] + \mathbf{var}[E[Y \mid X]]$.

Question

CT3 September 2015 Q7

X and *Y* are discrete random variables with joint distribution given below.

	$Y=-1$	$Y=0$	$Y=1$
$X=1$	0	1/4	0
$X=0$	1/4	1/4	1/4

(i) Determine the conditional expectation $E[Y|X = 1]$.

(ii) Determine the conditional expectation $E[X|Y = y]$ for each value of y.

(iii) Determine the expected value of X based on your conditional expectation results from part (ii).

Solution

(i) $$E[Y|X=1]=\frac{-1\times 0+0\times\frac{1}{4}+1\times 0}{\frac{1}{4}}=0$$

(ii) $$E[X|Y=-1]=\frac{1\times 0+0\times\frac{1}{4}}{\frac{1}{4}}=0,\quad E[X|Y=0]=\frac{1\times\frac{1}{4}+0\times\frac{1}{4}}{\frac{1}{2}}=\frac{1}{2}$$

$$E[X|Y=1]=\frac{1\times 0+0\times\frac{1}{4}}{\frac{1}{4}}=0$$

Solution

(iii) $E(X) = E\left[E[X \mid Y]\right] = E[X \mid Y = -1] \times P(Y = -1)$

$+E[X \mid Y = 0] \times P(Y = 0)$

$+E[X \mid Y = 1] \times P(Y = 1)$

and $E(X) = 0 \times \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{2} \times \frac{1}{2} + 0 \times \frac{1}{4} = \frac{1}{4}$

3 Compound Distributions

Let S = X_1, X_2, ….., X_N (and S =0 if N =0) where the X_i's are independent, identically distributed (as a variable X) and are also independent of N. S is said to have a compound distribution.

S is the sum of a random number of random quantities, which is the defining feature of a compound distribution.

Illustration: N is the number of claims which arise in a portfolio of business and $X_i$is the amount of the i'thclaim. S is the total claim amount.

3 Compound Distributions

Compound distributions arise commonly in general insurance examples, the random variable N is often referred to as the "number of claims" and the distribution of the random variables X_1, X_2, ….., X_N is referred to as the "individual claim size distribution", even where the compound distribution arises in another context.

To define a compound distribution, you need to know two components:

- the distribution of N (which is a discrete distribution) and
- the distribution of the Xi 's (which may be any distribution).

When the particular distribution of N is known, a compound distribution is referred to by the name of this distribution eg a compound Poisson distribution.

3.1 Moments of Compound Distributions

The mean and variance of *S* are easily found.

$E(S|N = n) = E(X1 + X2 + \dots + XN\,|N = n) = E(X1 + X2 + \dots + Xn = n.E(X)$

Similarly:
$\mathrm{var}(S|N = n) = n.\mathrm{var}(X)$

Therefore we have:
$\boldsymbol{E(S) = E[E(S|N)] = E[NE(X)] = E(N).E(X)}$

and

$\mathrm{Var}(S) = E[\mathrm{var}(S|N)] + \mathrm{var}[E(S|N)]$
$= E[N\,\mathrm{var}(X)] + \mathrm{var}[N\,E(X)]$
$\boldsymbol{= E(N).\mathrm{var}(X) + \mathrm{var}(N)\,[E(X)]^2}$

Question

CT3 April 2015 Q3

Assume that in a large portfolio of insurance contracts the claim size is a normally distributed random variable with expected value 1000. Also assume that the number of claims is a random variable following a Poisson distribution with parameter $\lambda = 400$.

(i) Calculate the expected value of the total claim amount from contracts in this portfolio.

(ii) Calculate a lower limit for the standard deviation of the total amount of claims from contracts in this portfolio.

Solution

Let X be the size of an individual claim, and N be the number of claims.

(i) Expected total amount is $E[X]E[N] = 1,000 \times 400 = 400,000$

(ii) $\text{Var}(\text{total amount}) = E[N]V[X] + V[N]E[X]^2$

A lower bound for the variance is then obtained by assuming $V[X] = 0$, that is,

$$\text{STD}(\text{total amount}) = \sqrt{V[N]E[X]^2} = 20 \times 1000 = 20,000$$

3.2 Generating Function of Compound Distributions

The MGF of S is given by:

M_S(t) = E(e^{tS}) = E[E(e^{tS} | N)

E(e^{tS} | N) = E[exp{t(X_1, X_2, ….., X_N)} | N = n]
= E[exp{t(X_1, X_2, ….., X_n)}]
= $\prod E[exp(tX_i)]$
= $[M_X\,(t)]^n$

Therefore we have:

M_S(t) = E[$\{M_X\,(t)\}^N$] = E[exp{N. log $M_X\,(t)$}] = M_N {log $M_X\,(t)$}

Question

CT3 September 2010Q8

A certain type of claim amount (in units of £1,000) is modelled as an exponential random variable with parameter $\lambda = 1.25$. An analyst is interested in *S*, the total of 10 such independent claim amounts. In particular he wishes to calculate the probability that *S* exceeds £10,000.

(i) (a) Show, using moment generating functions, that:
(1) *S* has a gamma distribution, and
(2) 2.5*S* has a χ^2_{20} distribution.

(b) Use tables to calculate the required probability.

Solution

(i) (a) (1) Let X_i be a claim amount.

Mgf of X_i is $M_X(t) = \left(1 - \dfrac{t}{1.25}\right)^{-1}$

Mgf of $S = \sum_{i=1}^{10} X_i$ is $M_S(t) = [M_X(t)]^{10} = \left(1 - \dfrac{t}{1.25}\right)^{-10}$,

which is the mgf of a gamma(10, 1.25) variable.

(2) Mgf of $2.5S$ is $E[e^{t(2.5S)}] = E[e^{(2.5t)S}] = M_S(2.5t) = (1-2t)^{-10}$,

which is the mgf of a gamma(10, ½) variable, i.e. χ^2_{20}.

(b) $P(\text{total} > £10{,}000) = P(S > 10) = P(\chi^2_{20} > 25) = 1 - 0.7986 = 0.2014$

Question

CT3 April 2010 Q9

- The number of claims, N, arising over a period of five years for a particular policy is assumed to follow a "Type 2" negative binomial distribution (as in the book of Formulae and Tables page 9)
- Each claim amount, X (in units of £1,000), is assumed to follow an exponential distribution with parameter λ independently of each other claim amount and of the number of claims.

Let S be the total of the claim amounts for the period of five years, in the case $k = 2$, $p = 0.8$ and $\lambda = 2$.

(i) Calculate the mean and the standard deviation of S based on the above assumptions.

Now assume that:

- N follows a Poisson distribution with parameter $\mu = 0.5$, that is, with the same mean as N above;
- X follows a gamma distribution with parameters $\alpha = 2$ and $\lambda = 4$, that is, with the same mean as X above.

(ii) Calculate the mean and the standard deviation of S based on these assumptions.

(iii) Compare the two sets of answers in (i) and (ii) above.

Solution

(i) $$E[N]=\frac{k(1-p)}{p}=\frac{2(0.2)}{0.8}=0.5 \quad \text{and} \quad V[N]=\frac{k(1-p)}{p^2}=\frac{2(0.2)}{0.8^2}=0.625$$

$$E[X]=\frac{1}{\lambda}=\frac{1}{2}=0.5 \quad \text{and} \quad V[X]=\frac{1}{\lambda^2}=\frac{1}{2^2}=0.25$$

$$E[S] \;=E[N]E[X] \;=0.5\times 0.5 \;=\; 0.25\text{, i.e. £250}$$

$$V[S]=E[N]V[X]+V[N]\{E[X]\}^2=0.5\times 0.25+0.625\times 0.5^2=0.28125$$

$$\therefore \quad SD[S]=0.530\text{, i.e. £530}$$

Solution

(ii) $E[N] = V[N] = \mu = 0.5$

$E[X] = \frac{\alpha}{\lambda} = \frac{2}{4} = 0.5$ and $V[X] = \frac{\alpha}{\lambda^2} = \frac{2}{4^2} = 0.125$

$E[S] = E[N]E[X] = 0.5 \times 0.5 = 0.25$, i.e. £250

$V[S] = E[N]V[X] + V[N]\{E[X]\}^2 = 0.5 \times 0.125 + 0.5 \times 0.5^2 = 0.1875$

$\therefore \quad SD[S] = 0.433$, i.e. £433

Solution

(iii) As expected the means are the same,
but the standard deviation in (i) is larger than that in (ii) due to the fact that both N and X have larger variances.